



THE COLONNADE

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Weekend Weather

Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
62	69	71
32	40	41
0%	0%	10%

www.weather.com

NUMBER CRUNCH

200,000

number of HOPE scholarship recipients this year

info provided by
www.ajc.com

Leland interviews in California

BY COREY DICKSTEIN
SENIOR REPORTER

According to a report out of California, GCSU President Dr. Dorothy Leland has been named a finalist for the position of president at the University of the Pacific in Stockton, Calif.

The report, from the Stockton newspaper, The Record, identifies Leland as one of three individuals to visit the school and take question in a forum of students, faculty and staff.

GCSU Director of Media Relations Bryan Jackson confirmed the report, but Leland was unable to be reached for comment due to her traveling.

Leland spent Monday, Tuesday and

Wednesday touring the school

Dr. Bruce Harshbarger, vice president for student affairs, said that Leland was not actively pursuing another job, but that Pacific had approached her.

“My understanding is that she is not in the job market,” Harshbarger said. “She’s got family in the area, and thought she would give them the courtesy (of applying).”

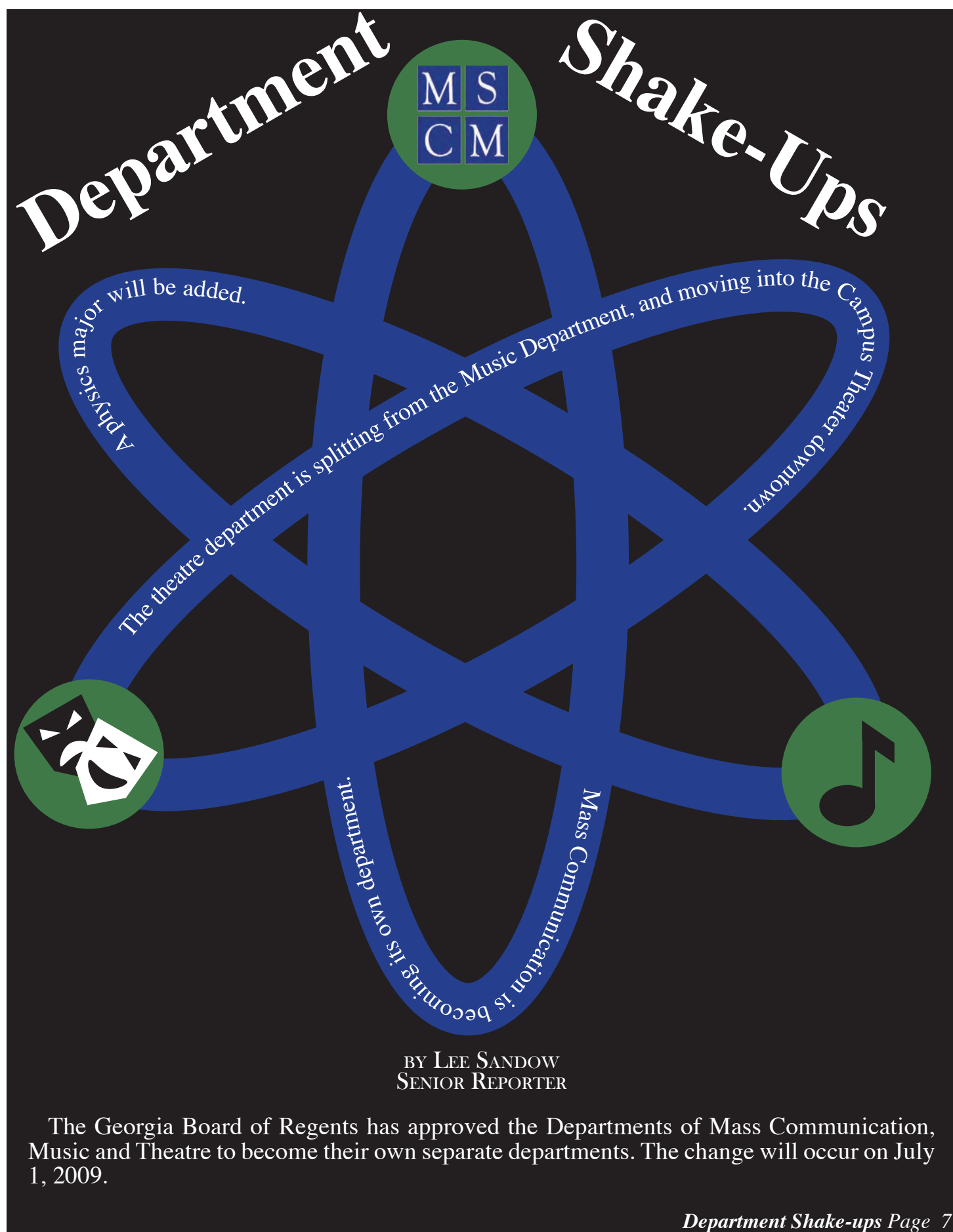
The hiring decision will be made by the California Board of Regents in March.

According to The Record, Leland actually began her college career at Pacific before transferring to Purdue University in Indiana where she earned her Bachelors, Masters



Leland Page 7

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE WEB
Dr. Dorothy Leland has been serving as the president since 2005.



BY LEE SANDOW
SENIOR REPORTER

The Georgia Board of Regents has approved the Departments of Mass Communication, Music and Theatre to become their own separate departments. The change will occur on July 1, 2009.

Department Shake-ups Page 7

GRAPHICS BY CLAIRE KERSEY

Oh the Firony:blazing station

BY CLAIRE DYKES
STAFF REPORTER

The Milledgeville fire department caught fire Monday afternoon due to electrical complications spreading mostly throughout the sleeping area.

“It was an electrical fire. Two objects were plugged into a receptacle.” Tom Dietrich said, Milledgeville fire department chief.

The fire did not spread beyond the sleeping quarters and all those who were on duty remained unharmed.

“I was sitting in the car and [a member of the crew] called me on the phone and told me the station was on fire. I thought they were kidding, but he wasn’t kidding,”

Dietrich said. “We had a small crew here. We had it under control by the time the fire trucks got here.”

The Milledgeville Police Department received a call regarding the fire at 3:17 p.m., according to an officer who was diverting traffic around the scene.

The fire spread quickly, but it was contained and no major equipment was damaged, though the fire truck was moved out of the building as a precaution.

“The fire marshall and I had just got back to the station,” Dietrich said. “The smoke detector started raisin’ Cain. That’s why it’s so important to have smoke



BOBBY GENTRY / SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

The fire department caught fire early last week.

Fire Page 7

Fees could rise in Fall

BY CHELSEA THOMAS
SENIOR REPORTER

In the midst of an unstable national economy, the GCSU Mandatory Student Fee Committee, associated with the Student Government Association (SGA), has ruled in favor of an increase for the fall 2009 Mandatory Student fee, averaging a \$60 increase.

Ryan Greene, SGA President, explains that student fees do rise every year with the inflation of prices, yet he admits this year’s raise was more significant.

“Students demand for better services and more events, such as GCSU Idol and Homecoming, require a rise in fees to get the job done,” says Greene. “The rise in these fees is for the benefit of the student.”

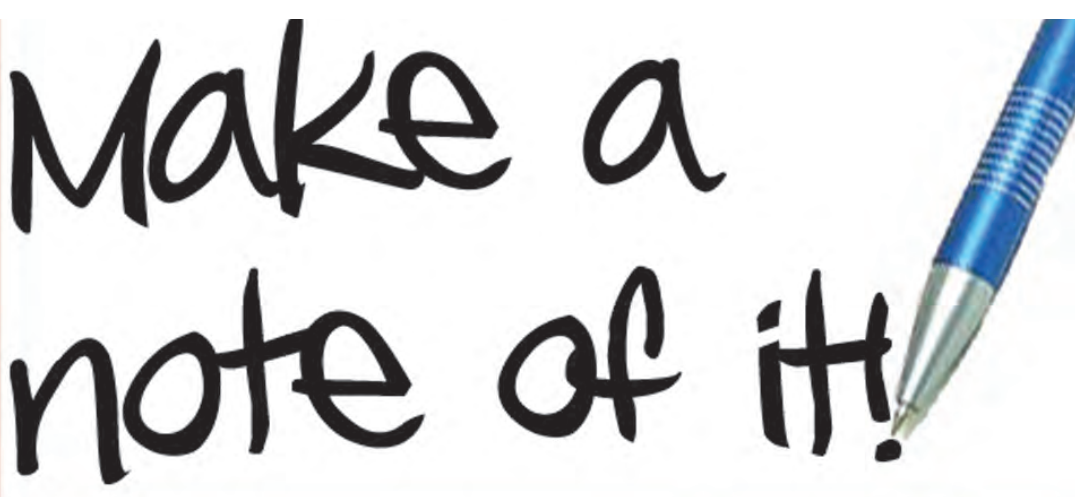
The mandatory student fee is composed of eight specific fees: activity, technology, athletic, health, transportation/parking, bobcat card, green and temporary wellness fee. The green fee, meant to support clean campus initiatives, was voted upon by the student body and this fall semester will be its initiation. The temporary wellness fee is meant to fund a new Student Wellness Center for West Campus. Yet, 74.4% of the rise in fees is from existing facets.

“The school has changed so much in the past ten years, growing in size and demand, that it has impacted the increasing of fees,” said Dean Bruce Harshbarger, Vice President and Dean of Students.

The process ordaining a rise in these fees begins when the Mandatory Student Fee Committee, composed of five students and five GCSU staff, accepts proposals for raises in individual fees. After voting on the proposals, their decisions are edited or cut by President Dorothy Leland. Her final decision is sent and reviewed by the Georgia Board of Regents. If the fees are improved, they are official and can go into effect the next school year.

“Overall, President Leland and her office have been doing a great job considering the financial affairs of the student body,” said Greene.

Student Fee Page 7



BY RYAN DEL CAMPO
STAFF REPORTER

Bill 6

This bill will allocate \$500 to the Iota Mu chapter of Delta Sigma Pi, which must have representation at the LEAD Conference Feb. 27-Mar. 1. The funds will cover the registration fees for the conference. The bill was passed on to the appropriations committee

Bill 7

This bill will allocate \$1000 to the GCSU chapter of College Republicans to cover funding to attend the Conservative Political Action Conference in Washington D.C. The funding will assist covering travel, hotel and conference fees. The bill was passed on to the appropriations committee.

Resolution 10

This resolution would amend the SGA Constitution to enable SGA to change several technical grammatical and typographic errors. The first vote passed unanimously, and it will undergo one more vote in SGA before being passed along to the student body for final approval.

Old Business

During last week's session, the City Relations Committee proposed an amendment to the SGA Constitution to make the committee a permanent fixture. However, during the second vote, the proposed amendment did not garner enough votes to pass. The purpose of the amendment was to solidify the relationship between the city of Milledgeville and SGA. Over the past semester, City Relations has worked hard to establish a sound relationship with the city government and advocate causes on behalf of students.

'Juicy' no more: citing hard times, gossip ends

BY SARAH GIARATANNA
STAFF REPORTER

As of Feb. 5, 2009 the Web site JuicyCampus.com will officially shut down.

Though GCSU students only recently began blogging on the Web site, the gossip and news will be short lived as the Web site announced its imminent shut down due to economic difficulties.

"Unfortunately, even with great traffic and strong user loyalty, a business can't survive and grow without a steady stream

of revenue to support it," said Matt Ivester, Juicy Campus founder and CEO, in a letter to his users. "JuicyCampus' exponential growth outpaced our ability to muster the resources needed to survive this economic downturn, and as a result, we are closing down the site as of Feb. 5, 2009."

Though Ivester claims in his letter to have provided a Web site founded on interest and fun, GCSU students are react-

Juicy Page 6

City to debut wireless network for this fall

BY KYLE COLLINS
SENIOR REPORTER

After several years of lobbying, planning and installation, Milledgeville's wireless network is set for launch on Oct. 31. On this fall target date, the city finally gets to take advantage of a high-tech makeover.

Milledgeville received an \$862,000 grant from the Wireless Communities' Georgia program back in 2006 for a wireless build out. Six other Georgia communities, including nearby Dublin, were grant recipients.

"Our name got thrown in mainly because of our population of state agencies," city planner Russell Thompson said. "It made sense that we would be competitive."

A search for vendors ensued, with Clearwire Corporation landing the contract. The city chose Clearwire because of their WiMax technology, which allows for faster speeds and a greater coverage area compared to other networks.

"We put out a bid under the Wi-Fi ideal and got a couple of responders that didn't work out because of their financial viability," Thompson said. "WiMax runs over a licensed spectrum, and it just so happened that Clearwire owned the spectrum covering Milledgeville."

After a merge with Sprint Nextel last December birthing the first national mobile broadband WiMax network, Clearwire could officially start funding the Milledgeville project.

Thompson said zoning and permits are the only remaining snags.

"They've (Clearwire) already done the RF design and got their cites identified," Thompson said.

The city wireless network covers around 16 square miles and runs over a different frequency than other wireless spots like the

GCSU campus and Blackbird Coffee.

The service is meant to be self-sustaining, so it isn't free. The system is based on mobility giving subscribers access to any Clearwire market.

The standard Clearwire rate for wireless service is \$29.99 per month. Local college students can subscribe at a reduced cost of \$25.

Frank Pendergast, owner of Blackbird Coffee, said the increased access to information is a good thing. Many people use Blackbird as a hang out spot because of the Internet access.

"I realize that it (the city network) is gonna be a pay service," Pendergast said. "We've been providing Internet free for our customers since we opened. It's hard to beat free."

One of the major applications of the wireless service falls under public safety. More efficient emergency response and

mobile access will aide patrol officers.

Beyond economic investment and government application, the city plans to help close the area's digital divide. Partnerships with the Knight Foundation and their program One Community intend for a community center to bridge the gap.

"The Knight Foundation has always supported the city. One of their initiatives happened to be broadband," Thompson said. "One Community is funded through the Knight Foundation to do some sort of center for digital excellence. We are one of the communities that fall under that because we are a Knight city, and we have access to their technical support."

Thompson said special accounts are allocated to go to lower income citizens. A program deciding who gets the accounts, training and a way to provide computers to those without is still in the works.



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Want to tell your friends thanks for always being there?

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Additional \$3 to add a picture with your message

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Happy Valentine's Day!
Love, John

Send messages and pictures to:
Colonnadevalentines@gmail.com

Conformation e-mail will be sent to let you know what to do next!

Students ponder grad school debate

BY TIM GRAHAM
STAFF REPORTER

Millions of college students will likely face a growing dilemma in the next few years: go to graduate school or brave the work force with your undergraduate degree? The decision is made even more difficult as the current economy will not guarantee jobs for everyone in the foreseeable future.

Having the additional education of graduate school will not assure you of a job either, and the potential job pool may be made even smaller as those not attending grad school may have work experience that those who went to grad school do not.

Price and job availability must become considerations for many thinking about going to graduate school. That is why many students decide not to go, including junior English major Pamela Cunneen.

“The only reason I would want to go to grad school is to get connections,” said Cunneen. Cunneen aspires to be film writer and producer. “Why pay 35 thousand dollars for connections when I can go to Atlanta and get a job?”

“You don’t need to go to grad school to learn about film,” she said. “I feel like it’s a lot of money to learn something that you can learn on the job. The only advantage [of going to grad school] is that they don’t have to teach you certain things once you get a job, plus it’s easier to get a job.”

Junior business management major Bethany Sanchez agrees with that advantage, which is one of the reasons she plans on attending graduate school.

“I want to further my education and get a better job,” Sanchez said. “I will have an advantage over people who didn’t go, it looks better to employers. Employers look at that and know that I have more knowledge and experience.”

A survey from ed2010.com showed that a majority of students graduating from grad school made a starting salary of 30 to 35 thousand dollars. A majority of students with just a four year degree had a starting salary of 25 and 30 thousand dollars.

Other findings go on to show that students who have attended graduate school usually get a higher starting salary, but not significantly higher. Also, a lot of salaries, for the first few years, will go towards paying for graduate school.

Economics professor James Arias says that the final decision should come down to a student’s long-term goals, not the state of the economy or the cost of school.

“Some students may be unsure of their career goals, or considering a career that might involve a graduate degree,” Arias said. “In that case, graduate school might

Georgia Graduate School Prices

Georgia Southern University
In state, full-time: \$147 (per credit hr)
In state, part-time: \$147 (per credit hr)
Out of state, full-time: \$586 (per credit hr)
Out of state, part-time: \$586 (per credit hr)
Required student fees: \$1,124

Univeristy of Georgia
In state, full-time: \$5,044
In state, part-time: \$211 (per credit hr)
Out of state, full-time: \$20,298
Out of state, part-time: \$846 (per credit hr)
Required fees: \$1,126

Georgia State’s Robinson Business School
In state, full-time: \$6,744
In state, part-time: \$281 (per credit hr)
Out of state, full-time: \$24,456
Out of state, part-time: \$1,019 (per credit hr)
Required student fees: \$988

Emory Goizueta’s Business School
Full-time: \$37,200
Part-time: \$22,500
Required student fees: \$376

Georgia Institute of Technology
In state, full-time: \$7,218
In state, part-time: \$650 (per credit hr)
Out of state, full-time: \$28,870
Out of state, part-time: \$1,200 (per credit hr)
Required student fees: \$1,146

GCSU Bunting School of Business
In state, full-time: \$5,589
In state, part-time: \$207 (per credit hr)
Out of state, full-time: \$22,302
Out of state, part-time: \$826 (per credit hr)
Required student fees: \$1,287

Info provided by:
www.grad-schools.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com

be more attractive. A significant cost of attending graduate school is the wages and salary that you are giving up by not working.

This cost may be lower in a recession because it may take longer to find a job. A recession usually affects some job markets more than others so you should try to find out how your specific job market is affected. Whether or not graduate school ‘pays off’ depends on the degree and the career field.”

Arias also said that if your career goal does not involve graduate school, but it is tough to find a job in your field, then students should consider other experiences that may build upon their resume, like an internship or possibly volunteer work.

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Caffeine Conundrum

BY MATT CHAMBERS
STAFF REPORTER

Just a few years ago if you were to stumble into a café down the street you’d see every seat taken by someone, whether the old retiree doing his daily crossword puzzle or the group of young tweens clamoring about the latest hottie: this plethora of people all linked together by one thing, coffee.

Today downtown cafés remain frequent and daily stops for many, but a growing number of caffeine addicts have adapted to their ever increasingly busy schedules by getting their daily fix from easier and faster commodities than coffee.

In an attempt to provide caffeine junkies with an alternate source of their favorite substance, in 1997 a company by the name of RedBull began to market and sell a drink that would provide the energy-giving caffeine without the hassle of a scalding cup of coffee.

RedBull gives the kick to those who needed it with the added bonus of supplying taurine, and vitamins such as vitamin B-6 and B-12. These bonus supplements give habitual coffee drinkers one more reason to choose RedBull as their morning refreshment.

RedBull’s popularity does not solely rely on those who switch from drinking coffee; through shrewd marketing and advertising RedBull quickly became a staple for college students.

“It’s soda but with a kick of energy afterwards,” sophomore psychology major Paul Anderson said.

Anderson used RedBull to stay awake driving and because he was having “one of those days.”

This new energy market had companies scrambling to develop their own energy drinks in an attempt to soak up the profit. Companies such as National Beverage Corp., which makes the energy drink Rip It, tried to attract more women by developing drinks like Rip It Chic, a sugar-free energy drink that sports a bold pink or purple design.

With energy drinks pulling in over three billion dollars in 2005, corporations began providing new ways for consumers to tap



BOBBY GENTRY / SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER
Blackbird barista John Fogleman, gets his caffeine fix with a good espresso.

into the powers of caffeine.

Energy bars emerged.

Energy bars are multifunctional; not only could they be used as a snack to satisfy an insatiable hunger but they could also be used for an extra boost.

Even old brand names, such as Snickers and Jelly Belly, have released energy giving forms of their original product in an attempt to draw brand loyal costumers to their caffeinated merchandise.

Snickers’ Marathon bar aims to entice in athletes and non-athletes looking for a quick energy fix. While the chocolate treat only contains 3.3 milligrams of caffeine, the energy bar packs 18 different proteins and six different sugars.

Another familiar brand, Jelly Belly, sells its trademark jellybeans infused with 50 milligrams of caffeine. These Extreme Sport Beans only come in two flavors currently, cherry and watermelon, but with growing popularity more bean flavors are sure to sprout up.

Caffeine Page 6

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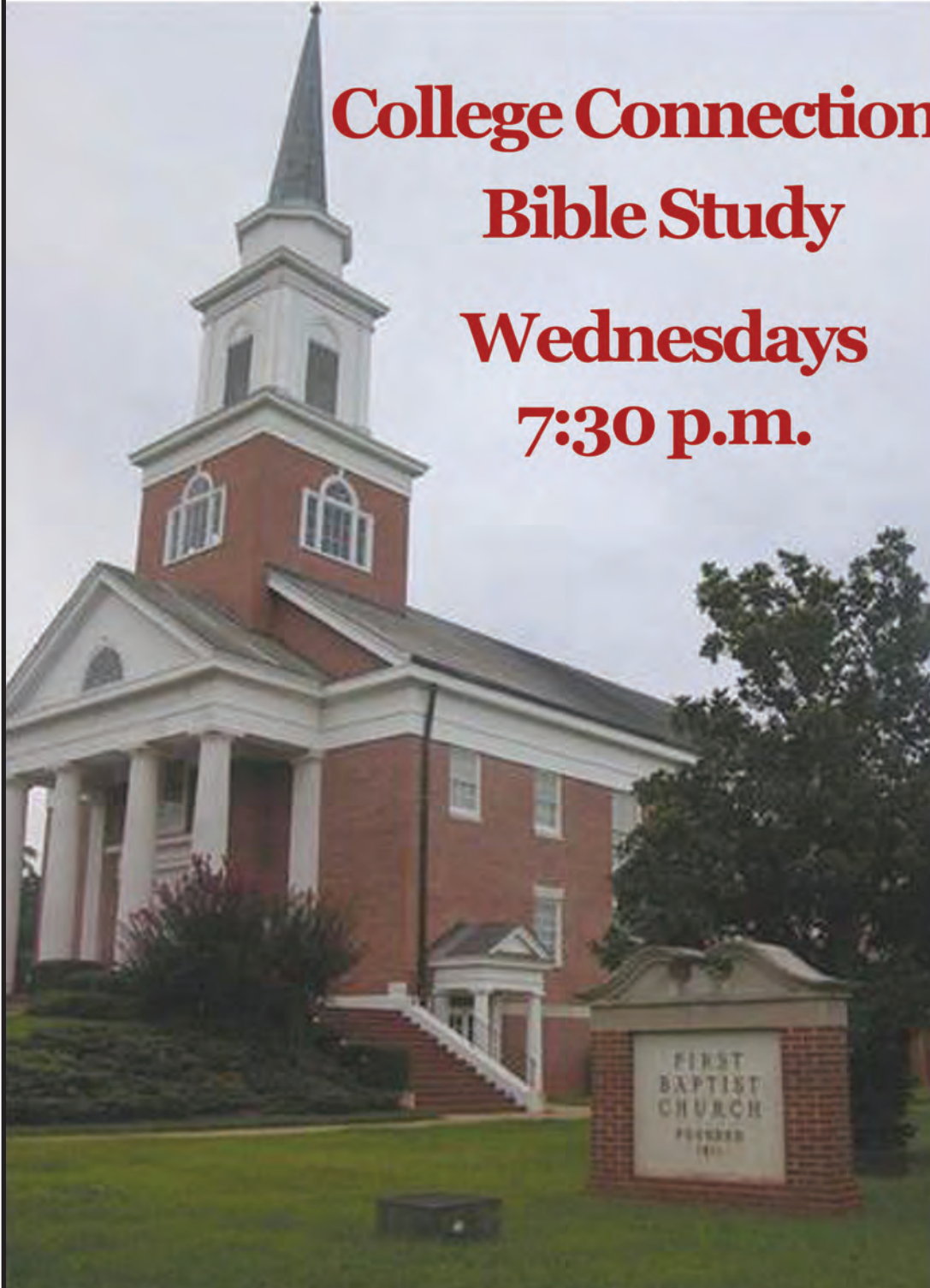
For Editor in Chief of The Colonnade



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Students want assurance from Obama admin

BY WARREN JOHNSON
STAFF WRITER

More than a million people endured the freezing cold to attend Obama's inauguration at the National Mall in Washington D.C., a historical event to say the least. Yet in only a few weeks, the glamour has worn off and many have packed up their Obama gear, writing it off as memorabilia. Others, however, are keeping a close eye on the Obama administration, many of whom have high expectations for our new leader.

"I think Obama will accomplish a lot in the first year of his Presidency," said Tiffany Schroer, "but there is so much to take care of." Schroer, a sophomore marketing major, hasn't always supported Obama.

"The whole [campaign] was treated like a circus," said Schroer, although she admits to have never been 'political' in her life. "We're at a point now where we have to hope for the best, whatever that may be."

Obama took quick action in just the first day of his Presidency issuing a statement of intent. He has since promised to close Guantanamo Bay prison and has enacted legislation bills to prohibit federal funding of abortion and stem cell research, holding true to the promises of his campaign.

Sophomore mass communication major Maggie Schiller doesn't agree with

such swift efforts.

"There's so little left to be done in Iraq," said Schiller. "It would all be in vane" - but Obama is following through on plans to evacuate

"I hope he sticks to his campaign promise," said Christine Podwoski, freshman business management major. "He offered hope and change. That's a big reason why we voted for him."

Change doesn't come overnight, but President Obama has taken off running, handling house duties first, which includes a pay freeze on his senior staff.

With what could be called a 10-year-plan, Obama hopes to resurrect our economy. Ultimately, the goal to prevent wasteful and unwanted spending is one shared among all Americans.

Despite the many who feel indifferent, senior accounting major Holly Weimer agrees we're making progress: "After all, the only person who doesn't make waves is one who doesn't do anything" said Weimer.

"He's not being as liberal as some hoped," said Podwoski, "but he can't make everyone happy. It's the best we can ask for."

More than the disenfranchisement of the Federal Reserve System of banking or an investigation of Wall Street, GCSU students have relatively minimal requests for President Obama: assurance.

The Colonnade's guide to the Presidential Succession



GRAPHICS BY CLAIRE KERSEY

ConsumerEd.com/gcsu_car

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a new car.

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BOBBY GENTRY/ SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

Sara Fleetwood makes coffee, one the most common caffeine fix for students. However many other used other alternatives such as energy drinks.

Caffeine

Continued from Page 3...

Realizing that not all consumers have the opportunity to sit and casually sip an energy drink before going about their day, some companies began to condense the packaging of energy to small shots that can be easily downed in just one gulp. One such energy shot, 5-Hour Energy, claims to provide five hours worth of energy from just a two ounce bottle chock full of caffeine and vitamins.

For those in a hurry but have a craving for their daily energy boost, 5-Hour Energy can provide just that, despite its small stature.

For those consumers who don't want to drink anything to get their energy the perfect product Kickers 80 Hour Energy Spray Vitamin Supplement seems like a 0.7 fluid ounce holy grail. With a few sprays under the tongue you will have supplied your body with the same amount of caffeine as a cup of coffee.

"It's like really strong," said freshman Ellie Dekle who used the spray she got as a present from her brother.

Somewhere between 14 and 25 percent of Americans, depending on the study, have chronic bad breath.

This statistic probably entered the minds of the creators of Foosh Energy Mints and Jolt Gum. Both products provide clean mouths with an extra bonus of

caffeine.

Two pieces of Jolt Caffeine Energy Gum contains 90 milligrams of caffeine, roughly half the amount in a cup of joe at Einstein Bros Coffee, but only one Foosh Energy Mints has 100 milligrams of caffeine, with the same breath freshening power.

You might want for your caffeine intake to be more productive and practical. To save you time, companies have created every day items that contain caffeine. Now instead of waking up and turning on the coffee pot then hoping the shower, why not just hop in the shower and bathe with Shower Shock Caffeinated Soap?

The soap's caffeine is absorbed directly into the skin. Each four-ounce bar of soap contains 12 servings, or showers, of 200 milligrams of caffeine—that's like drinking two and a half RedBulls.

With such diversity of caffeine-related products, it's a wonder what will come on the market next or if anything will ever be as popular an energy source as coffee. Will downtown cafés become things of the past as people adapt and start using faster more convenient sources of caffeine or will we always be able to go downtown and enjoy a latté while laughing inwardly at the gossiping girls and retiree stumped by his crossword puzzles?



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE WEB

Fitness and health more than just a trend

BY KYLE COLLINS
SENIOR REPORTER

With the new year's fresh start, people place priority on health and fitness.

Usually, resolution goals hinge on sculpting our individual figure. Last month, the American Council on Exercise released its top fitness trends for 2009.

Circuit and kettlebell training provide time-efficient workouts for the total body and cardiovascular system. Those bored with traditional means can supplement these into their weekly activity.

According to MayoClinic.com, interval training, which is the foundation of circuit routines, lets people burn more calories by alternating bursts of rigorous and light activity.

Incorporating varied intensities in strength training and cardio sessions allows people to make significant gains. Overall, strength and endurance can increase beyond the levels established by traditional weight and aerobic workouts.

Reduced soreness can be an additional benefit. MayoClinic.com says alternating bursts of intense exercise with smoother intervals helps reduce the buildup of often painful muscle waste products.

Associate professor of exercise science and program coordinator Mike Martino said the current research supports the use of interval training. Circuit sessions integrating total body exercises give you a fresh sequence.

"Pick ten of your favorite exercises total body and do a workout like that. Go from one to the next and try to alternate upper and lower body. You can manipulate interval training to change up your workout," Martino said.

Having a solid aerobic base before entering interval phases of strength training speeds up recovery. Putting in at least 30 minutes of varied cardio activity two to three times per week is helpful.

"When you start to segway into interval training, don't kill it right away. It's humbling, but do a lot less than you think you can do," Rich Dobson, exercise science graduate student said. "Be smart about what you're doing and build. Try to work on time and building a base rather than trying to hit it hard."

Martino said one negative of circuit training is the increased interval intensity, which could cause injury if the body is pushed too hard.

Tying into the the concept of whole body conditioning, an old Russian tradition of kettlebell training hits multiple muscle groups simultaneously. The United States has only recently caught on to a system that has helped Russian weightlifters and special forces for over one hundred years.

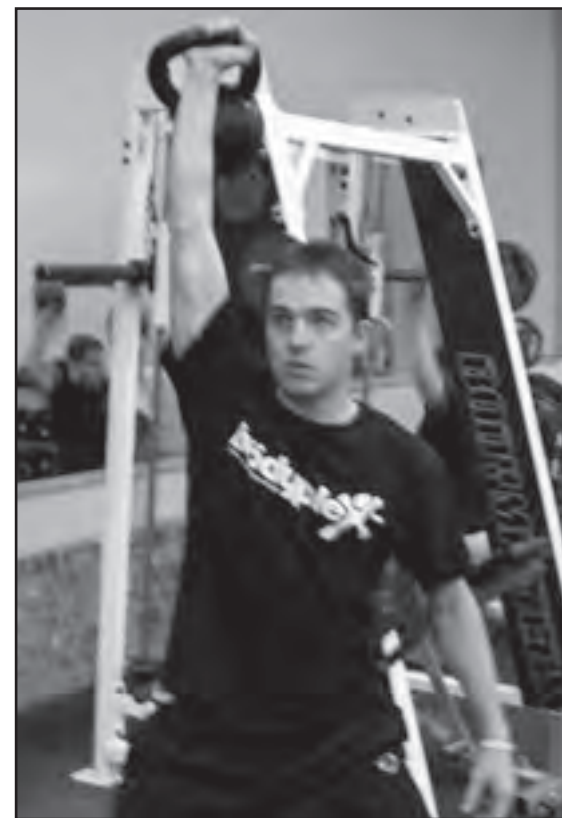
A kettlebell is a cast iron weight resembling a cannonball with a handle. They range anywhere from 10 to 100 pounds in traditional or smoother vinyl coated finishes.

Numerous exercises with the kettlebells help increase strength, as the entire body must be engaged to lift and control the bell. Improvements in grip strength, range of motion and core strength are all advantages.

Hip swings, cleans, rows and presses are a few ways to integrate the kettlebells. Martino said optimal entry level weight is around 15 pounds for females and 25 for males.

Alternating the use of one and two armed movements gives the individual multiple ways to get major training done in a short period. Kettlebells fit into circuit workouts as well.

One drawback is that it requires a lot of room and a flat surface like a rubber mat or outside grass areas.



KYLE COLLINS / SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

Rich Dobson demonstrates proper use of equipment

Learning and maintaining the proper technique is a top priority. For those willing to commit the time and focus to advance their overall conditioning, kettlebells present a new challenge.

"You have to have dedication and motivation to keep coming back to stuff like the kettlebells," Dobson said. "It's about knowing what you're doing and how it fits into the big picture."

Dobson said working with one or multiple partners makes these fitness methods easier. The available facilities and exercise training resources at GCSU can accommodate those curious about circuits and kettlebells.

Fitness trends like these give people a way to step towards better health. An overall healthy lifestyle includes more than visual appearance.

"[Wellness] is not a one-dimensional model, that's where people go wrong," Martino said. "Most people are more worried about how they look than what kind of health they're in."

Dobson said those who work hard in the gym but eat terribly won't get the optimal gains from exercise because of the imbalance.

"If you do [exercise] to make you feel better, it's gonna stay with you forever," Martino said.

Juicy

Continued from Page 2...

with approval and outrage at this closure.

"I think in some ways it will have a positive effect," Caitlin McCourt said. "[The Web site] set the example that it's okay to talk behind people's backs and encouraged slanderous behavior."

Other students question the sudden closure and wonder if the Web site shut down for more than economic difficulties.

"I'm not sure if it shut down just for economic difficulties," Ellie Ebert said. "I never read it, but it would be terrible if the shutdown conflicted with the freedom of speech."

The Web site originally launched in August 2007 and Ivester created it to provide a simple and seemingly fun outlet to juice up campus. Like an oversqueezed lemon though, the site garners a sour reaction from some students.

"I think it is amazing," said Mandy

Labra. "That sight brings nothing but pain and horrible experiences to people."

Labra went on to explain that she was not surprised by the site's economic failure.

"I don't know how they would raise funds in the first place, not that many people know about the site," Labra said.

For the students who do not read JuicyCampus, the shutdown seems of little consequence.

"It might effect some fallacious females that I know, but not me personally," Drew Godsey said. "There were some hurtful things on there, but people did not have to read them."

With the imminent shut down, the online juice will soon run dry, though Ivester released no statement saying that he might not try to launch the site again, should he receive adequate funding.

Even without the Web site, Ivester encourages college students around the nation to, "keep it juicy."



Research shows that waiting until graduation is directly related to moving home to your parents' basement....

START YOUR JOB SEARCH NOW!

NURSING & HEALTH CAREERS EXPO

February 2 | Magnolia Ballroom | Noon – 3 p.m.

EDUCATOR EXPO at Augusta State

February 19 | ASU Athletic Complex | 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. Co-sponsored by GCSU

GCSU CAREER EXPO

March 4 | Magnolia Ballroom | Noon – 3 p.m.

Our Career Fairs are open to all majors and years seeking job, internship, graduate school, or career information.

Don't miss this chance to meet employers face-to-face!

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University Career Center

232 Lanier Hall | 445-5384 | www.gcsu.edu/career

Student Fee

Continued from Page 1...

The proposed raise in fees was around \$76 originally, but Leland trimmed it down to \$55. This brought the total student fees for fall 2009 around \$525, compared to \$465.

Even with the efforts to lessen the increase, many students seem to be unhappy about it, claiming that GCSU is not considering the well-being of their wallets in a time where many families struggle with their incomes.

Sophomore English major, Samantha Mandernacht, is frustrated with this raise in student fees after learning that the 2009 Homecoming budget sits at \$66,000.

“Maybe if funds were being allocated more modestly and responsibly during a time of financial stress, students wouldn’t have to bear the weight by paying higher fees,” said Mandernacht.

Addressing this argument, Greene be-

lieves the majority of the student body can carry the extra burden to satisfy their requests for better services.

“Generally speaking, the (GCSU) student body didn’t voice concerns to SGA,” said Greene. “We did not hear from the students that they were adamant for fees increasing this year.”

If there are students who experience problems with paying this extra fee, then talk to GCSU officials.

“I encourage students to set up special appointments with Financial Aid,” Dr. Harshbarger said.

Institutionally, GCSU has taken precautions by freezing positions that are vacant in the faculty, by delaying non-essential expenses and by cutting down on surpluses. Since all the state education cuts, the school has had to be careful with their provided budgets already.

Dean Harshbarger sums up the issue.

“We need to make hard decisions on what is essential in this economic downturn and only make necessary expenses,” Harsbarger said.



BOBBY GENTRY / SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

The fire was contained to the sleeping quarters. No one was hurt.

Fire

Continued from Page 1...

detectors.”

The hallway was filled with black smoke when Dietrich entered the building.

The Milledgeville Police Department reopened W. Thomas St. to vehicular traffic at about 4 p.m. The bunking room was left charred but there was little to no damage visible from the outside the building.

GCSU student Katie Ragusa saw the fire while walking to class.

“There was a whole bunch of commotion,” said Ragusa. “There were a lot of students standing around taking pictures (of the fire).”

The fire chief noted the fire was “really a shock.”

Leland

Continued from Page 1...

Doctorate degrees.

Pacific is a liberal arts school founded in 1851. It has a current enrollment of 6,251 students including graduate students.

Leland was named GCSU’s president on Jan. 1, 2004, becoming the 10th president since the school’s inception in 1889 as Georgia Normal & Industrial College. Leland is the

Department Shake-ups

Continued from Page 1...

The Board of Regents has also approved GCSU to add a physics major, which the school used to have, but dropped in 1972. Since then, physics had only been available as a minor. The major will be a part of the Department of Chemistry and Physics.

The Mass Communication program is currently part of the Department of English, Speech and Journalism. The program had been trying to become a separate department for some time.

“It’s been a gradual process,” said Dr. Mary Jean Land, chair of the Mass Communication program. “We’ve separated from the English Department over five years. We’ve moved off the English Department Floor and into another building. The budget separated three years ago.”

The Theatre Department will also become its own department, separate from the Music Department on July 1. Dr. Karen Berman,

second female president in school history.

During Leland’s tenure, the school’s reputation has grown, even receiving national attention.

She has been instrumental in the implementation of such programs as the Early College program and the Center for Graduate and Professional Learning in Macon.

Harshbarger stressed that Leland is not looking for another job.

“These things come up from time to time,” he said. “She is certainly not actively looking to leave (GCSU).”

chair of the Theatre Department, was excited about what this means for the future of the GCSU Theatre.

“This wonderful event will enable each of the chairs (of theatre and music) to direct and guide their departments separately,” Berman said. “We’re very excited about what’s in store as the department moves in another year or so into the campus theatre building downtown. That’s when there will be a physical separation between the two departments.”

Though the two departments are no longer under one banner, they plan to still work together just as they have done in the past. The Mass Communication Department also plans to continue to work with their old department.

“There are a lot of advantages of being in the English Department, and we’ve enjoyed being with them,” Land said. “There are a lot of good people there.”

The addition of the physics major will allow students to graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree. The addition of the major adds GCSU as one of ten universities in the state to offer a physics major.

Missed the Fire Department Blaze?

Listen to our exclusive interview and watch our slideshow

online at www.GCSUnade.com

Coming soon this February

GCSU celebrates Black History Month

Exclusively in The Colonnade.

READ:

[reed], verb.

1. To look at carefully so as to understand the meaning of (something written, printed, etc.)

2. to render in speech

3. to have such knowledge of a language as to be able to understand it.

4. To acquire knowledge from the written text.

5. to apprehend the meaning of

6. to adopt or give as a reading in a particular passage



grrits

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Our Voice

Work for the government:
don't pay taxes

Another week, another Obama nominee tax scandal.

This time the spotlight fell on Tom Daschle. The former senator was nominated to be the head of the Department of Health and Human Services, but withdrew his name this week over a tax record controversy.

Daschle is the second Obama nominee to face problem from taxes. Timothy Geithner, the new Treasury Secretary, was confronted with tax problems, but was still confirmed.

In 1789 Benjamin Franklin wrote, "In this world nothing is certain but death and taxes." Franklin should have added the exceptions for government officials.

Apparently, you don't have to pay your taxes to work for the government. How much can you not pay? \$34,000 worth of self-employment taxes, at least that was the case for Geithner.

How could our Treasury Secretary nominee not pay over \$30,000 in taxes? More importantly, how could he still be confirmed?!

With April coming up, we all, who are lucky enough to be employed, are going to have to do our taxes. If average citizens don't pay their taxes, the government hunts them down and forces them to pay.

However, Geithner did not have to pay his taxes until he was up for a new job. If we all only had to pay our taxes before we apply for a new job, life would be a lot less hectic come April.

On top of Geithner's thousands of dollars unpaid, Daschle now admits to failing to file \$15,000 in donations to charities as well as unreported car service and more than \$80,000 in unreported income.

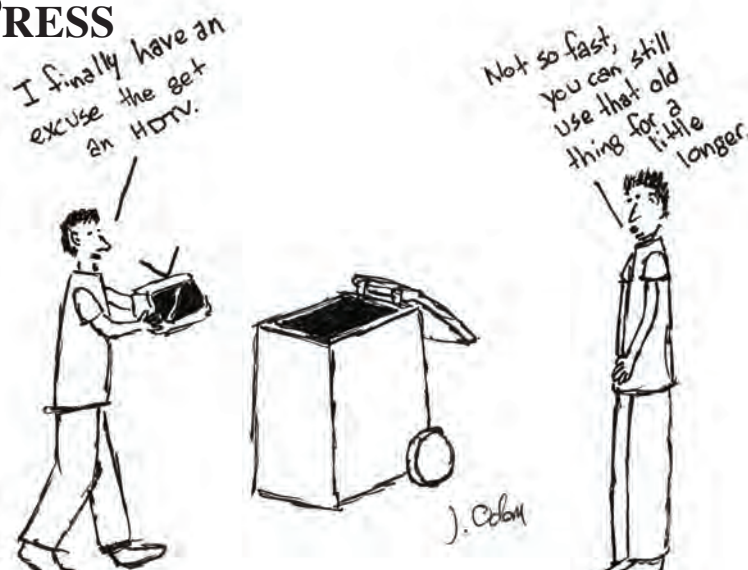
Daschle also recently chose to pay \$140,000 in back taxes for his 2005-2007 filings. No wonder the government is so immensely in debt. There are government officials getting away with not paying over \$100,000 in taxes!

The Obama administration promised change in Washington, but so far they have only given us scandals as usual. While Obama admits to making mistakes in appointments, these appointees show the need for a close look into the taxes of government officials, especially those who are nominated for a cabinet position.

Please send responses to
ColonnadeLetters@gcsu.edu

THE HARD PRESS

BY JAMES ODOM



Why bipartisanship is wrong



BY ANDREW ADAMS
COLUMNIST

In the past couple months there have been calls by many powerful people, including President Obama, for bipartisanship. On the face of it this seems like a good idea. After all, don't we like it when we can all agree on something? But considering the historical and philosophical flaws of bipartisanship, this might be a dangerous road for America to travel.

When politicians cast their vote in the popular lot, just to say they agreed with the other side, they are doing a great injustice to America. Our nation works best when there are two different, vocal sides that aren't afraid to express their opinion. Liberals and conservatives, the yin and the yang.

When our legislators express only one solution to a problem we, as a nation, are being robbed of other potentially better solutions. Right now America is facing unique,

never before seen problems, so we need as many unique, creative solutions as we can possibly get.

The reason congress will debate each bill for dozens of hours is so that they can, ideally, incorporate the best solutions of each proposal. This is the reason they make amendments to bills that are already before them.

Bipartisanship for the sake of bipartisanship encourages legislators to hop on a popular bandwagon so that they can say "I didn't argue with the President, or congressional leaders." In reality they are saying "I was so lazy, that even though I know that there are pressing problems in America, I just didn't want to put forth any real effort into thinking of a good practical solution that would help us. Besides, it's so easy to just say yes."

Just as there are many sides to an issue, we can all agree that there are many solutions to a problem. Some better than others. Legislators shouldn't be afraid of exploring all options and then, putting personal political considerations aside, decide on the best solution for our nation.

In school we are taught about the value of diversity and how we as a nation are stronger because no two people are exactly alike. Why then would anyone want to stifle diversity of opinion? It is every American's job to

question what our elected officials are doing, and to take this into consideration when they are up for re-election.

We are all Americans, and we all want what is best for the nation. But that isn't always the exact same thing. We all see things differently and at the expense of sounding like a kindergarten teacher, that can be a wonderful thing. It is not unpatriotic to criticize your government when you believe that they are leading us down a road contrary to the Constitution and the founding ideals of our nation.

The bedrock of our nation is dissension. Whether it be our protest of the British in the American Revolution or the decades long debate we continue to have on sensitive issues like abortion, capital punishment and gun control.

Willingness to debate issues is what has made our nation as strong as it is. While some criticize a two-party political system, it has actually been extremely good for America, particularly when neither party has complete control in Washington.

For example, look at the years 1994-2000, Bill Clinton, a Democrat, was President and both houses were controlled by Republicans. President Clinton and the Congressional Republicans did not get along. Republicans even impeached President Clinton and tried very

hard to have him removed from office. Both parties were at each other's necks, and they strongly detested each other. But when you consider the state of the nation, the economy was great, we weren't over-extending our military and we even had a budget surplus. When the parties did come together it was for an issue they did an outstanding job with like welfare reform, business deregulation and cutting some discretionary spending to balance the budget.

On the other hand, the last time we had a President with complete control (defined by myself as a filibuster proof majority in the Senate) was President Jimmy Carter. A Democrat with a democratic congress that would do whatever he wanted. What did one party's complete control in Washington get us? During President Carter's final year, the interest rate was at 21 percent, inflation stood at 13.5 percent, and unemployment was over 7 percent.

We can't afford one party to have complete control, just as we can't afford to have only one solution presented to solve our problems. Instead of asking our elected representative to agree with what's popular just for the heck of it, we should be asking them to look into the issue, and pay due diligence to the Constitution and then decide what the best solution is.

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The Colonnade wants to correct mistakes appearing in the newspaper. If you believe we have made a mistake, please call us at 478-445-4511 or 478-445-2559 or e-mail us at colonnade@gcsu.edu.

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For those of you who don't know, The Colonnade has a profile on Facebook. Recently we were tagged in one of those "25 random facts, things, habits, goals and more" notes. And since we're doomed to six years of bad luck or something if we don't post our own, here's a "note" of 25 facts about The Colonnade for your reading pleasure. Consider yourself tagged.

1. The Colonnade was established in 1924, making us 84 years old. We're willing to bet that we're older than you.

2. In our Facebook profile (and at the top of this page), the ugly child that represents us in our picture was found by a Google search using the word combination "Birth Control Glasses." Feel free to look it up.

3. There are no pre-requisites or requirements to work for the newspaper. All that is required is a commitment to reporting the news, and that you attend our weekly meetings held every Monday at 5 p.m. in the MSU Lounge. Oh, and we have pizza every week. You know you can't resist that.

4. Our office is located in MSU 128 in the lower levels of the building, across from the MSU lounge. There's nothing that makes us happier than on Wednesday nights

when there are bands performing in there.

5. Despite claims by Colonnade editors past and present, there are not shackles that keep them chained to their desks.

6. We actually have more people in the office on Wednesday nights than we have desks for, so many of them wind up on our two couches working on their laptops. We thought this was worth mentioning because the editor writing this is sitting on one of them right now.

7. All the computers in the Colonnade office are Macs. We're not Apple product elitists (except our Web Editor, that jerk) but we do like the stuff we have, which is fortunate considering how many hours we spend on them every week.

8. On that note, we start each Wednesday at 5 in the afternoon and usually don't put the paper to bed (read: finish the thing) until somewhere between two and four in the morning. (and sometimes 7 or 8 a.m.)

9. On that note, many of us are caffeine junkies, and like any journalists worth their salt, we love coffee. We used to have a coffee pot in our office closet, but after accidentally leaving a near-full pot in there once over the Winter Break, we had to get rid of it for sanitation reasons.

10. Every single issue of The Colonnade ever made can be found on microfilm in the Library. Check them out and see how we looked then as opposed to now. We look pretty good now.

11. We've won the Georgia Collegiate Press Association (GCPA) General Excellence

award for three years running, and have been notified by the GCPA that we've placed in the top three again this year. We'll find out on Saturday, Feb. 5 whether or not we won first place.

12. You're still thinking about number nine, we're sure. Relax. The office is fine now. That happened YEARS ago.

13. Our printer recently exploded on us, but we were able to get it fixed. Which is a mixed-blessing, because several of our editors were really looking forward to going "Office Space" on the thing.

14. As the night progresses so does our level of goofiness.... Weird, we know!

15. For example, we've been known to take our rolling-chairs into the hall outside the office and joust later on in the morning. We're sure the people at Public Safety watching on the security cameras are more than a little confused.

16. The Editors in Chief through the years have passed down a foam baseball bat that they carry around the office while they work. The theory is that it fulfills the primal desire to have a blunt object to hit things with when the computers screw up.

17. If you see us on Facebook on Wednesday nights, it's because we're using it for research. Seriously.

18. We use Adobe InDesign and Photoshop to get most of our work done. We use Microsoft Word for the editing of words. We use a program called Adium for receiving our Vents (send them to ColonnadeVent on AIM!). We use Safari and Firefox for our Internet browsing.

19. At least once a month our Web Editor (that jerk) will change the icons on our desktop to play Rick Astley's "Never Gonna Give You Up" instead of launching the program it is supposed to. This is why we're having so much fun lambasting him in this note.

20. The Rainbow Pinwheel of Death (the Mac equivalent of the Blue Screen of Death) has been known to make us use series of words that would make a sailor blush.

21. On our Web site (GCSUnade.com) we have message boards that see less action than our Editor in Chief (this entry typed by a vengeful Web Editor). So go online and check them out.

22. The Distribution Manager is the dude who delivers the papers to the campus on Thursday afternoons. He has a driver's license, even if you can't tell to see him drive the golf cart.

23. One of our staff members, who has worked for us since he was a freshman, and was lame enough to keep count, has spent a total of 99,060 minutes in the office. For those of you keeping score, that's about 1,651 hours. Or 69 full days.

24. The hardest thing to do every week is to write the voice, and fill column space (like this) when we don't get material. The poll question is a pain too.

25. Who the hell wrote entry 21?!

So there's 25 things about us. We've tagged you, so be sure to let us know about yourself, and what you want to see from us. e-mail us at colonnadeletters@gcsu.edu and let us know!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Comments from GCSUnade

Bobcat Vision gets a face-lift for Spring

It is important to remember that not all students feel as passionate as Norton or Greene. There are many of us who believe the flat screen televisions themselves were a total and utter waste of funds, especially considering the incredible budgets cuts.

The hype about Skype

Very informative--a lot of staff at UGA use skype to talk to their children when they study abroad. Thanks for the good article.

Great article! Very well written!

Smoking ban proposal tries to find a compromise

More than 50 studies show that human papillomaviruses cause over ten times more lung cancers than they pretend are caused by secondhand smoke. Passive smokers are more likely to have been exposed to this virus, so the anti-smokers' studies, which are all based on nothing but lifestyle questionnaires, have been cynically DESIGNED to falsely blame passive smoking for all those

extra lung cancers that are really caused by HPV.

The anti-smokers have committed the same type of fraud with every disease they blame on smoking and passive smoking, as well as ignoring other types of evidence that proves they are lying, such as the fact that the death rates from asthma have more than doubled since their movement began.

And it's a lie that passive smoking causes heart disease. AMI deaths in Pueblo actually ROSE the year after the smoking ban.

Economic woes cause worry among students

Georgia offers a number of service cancelable loans in critical needs fields. In this economy, students who are uncertain about their future might want to consider these.

There are many ways that students can earn extra money to help them out. One way is to sell their blood. Male students can sell their sperm.

Sperm donation? Great idea. What can women do?

The Colonnade encourages readers to express their views and opinions by sending letters to the editor at: CBX 2442; Milledgeville, Ga. 31061 or by e-mail at colonnadeletters@gcsu.edu

All letters must be typed and include:

- names
- address/ Email address
- telephone number

- year of study
- major

Only your name, year of study and major will be listed.

• Unsigned letters will not be printed. Names will be withheld only under very unusual circumstances.

- Letters longer than 300 words may be condensed.
- All letters will be edited

for grammar, spelling and punctuation errors.

• All letters become the property of The Colonnade and cannot be returned.

• We are not able to acknowledge their receipt or disposition. Letters will be printed at the discretion of the Editor in Chief.

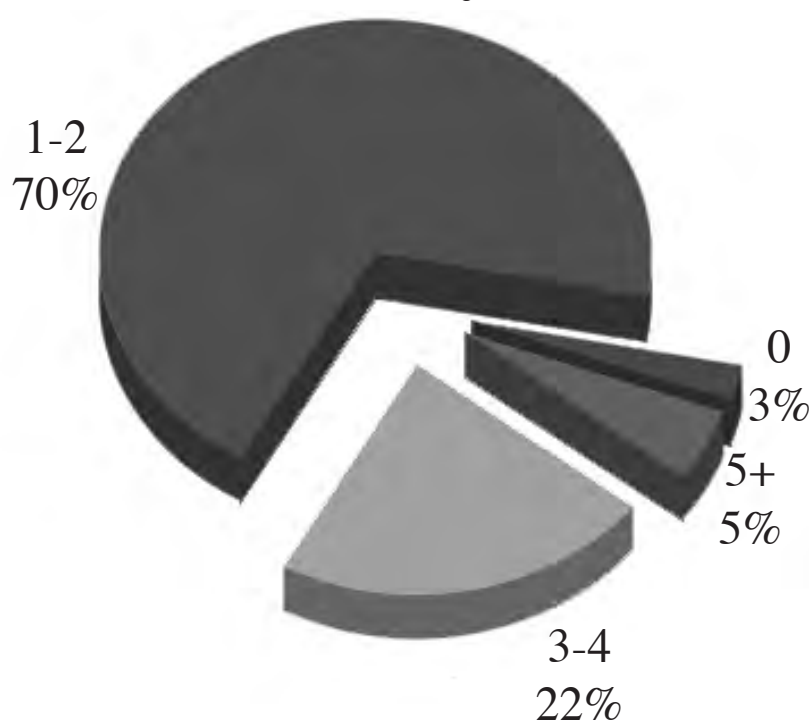
CORRECTIONS

- In last week's edition of The Colonnade the correction should have had the name Elise Colcord.
- In last week's Colonnade, Matt Chambers column entitled "Stimulus Bill: the good and the bad," the first line should have read, "What's \$819 billion among friends, right?"
- In last week's "Our Voice" Chris Freilberg was identified as a student at Indian University. He is a former student, and currently a reporter in Fairbanks, Alaska.

POLL OF THE WEEK

GRAPHIC BY COREY DICKSTEIN

How many online social networks do you use?



Next week's question:

What do you think about Juicy Campus shutting down?

- I will miss talking trash.
- I do not care either way.
- It was a disgusting site, I am glad it is gone
- Juicy Campus?

Vote online at GCSUnade.com

Got more to say? Let us know with a letter to the editor! Send them to Colonnadeletters@gcsu.edu.



If you could add one major to GCSU, what would you add?



"Anthropology."

Ami Ingwrsen, sophomore, sociology

"Social work."

Hanna Demmitt, sophomore, psychology



"Religion."

John Raymond, senior, philosophy



"Automotive care."

Katie Knothe, senior, special ed



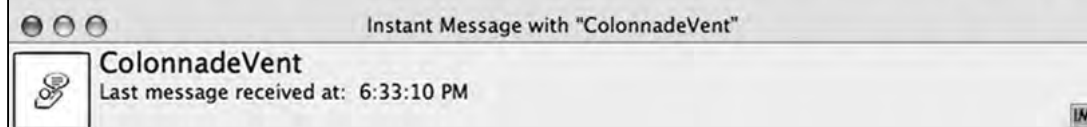
"Golf management."

Laura Brant, freshman, music therapy



Reported by Taylor Ehramjian

The Litter Box



Can someone please tell me why GCSU police have a new Dodge Charger cop car? I mean my teachers are complaining that they don't have the budget to make copies of their syllabi because of budget cuts but we can afford new cop cars to arrest GCSU students and fund the city. This is just crazy.

I wish you were with me. I miss you and I hate missing you!

I feel bad for the poor girl whose last name was published in the public safety report. But man did it make me giggle. I'll make sure never to get in a car with her, I might end up in a ditch.

I love that both our basketball teams are great this year....It's too bad we can't understand a word of what the announcer says though.

Just a quick note... The new Electronic Medical Record is a move forward. It is the transition that is very difficult. Converting paper records as well as training doctors (who will feel like they have two jobs at this point) will take a long time. Eventually, the system will help store/share patient records more efficiently.

We made our roommate drink pee. Is that ok to do?

I can't help but wonder who the bigger idiot is: The person who designed Bobcat's parking lot or the one who gave some of you people a license to drive.

If there is a lady at the top of the stairs during a fire drill and she is in a wheel chair, instead of yelling at her to walk down the steps, the police should actually go HELP her.



Want to vent about something? Send us a message about what's bothering you to screen name ColonnadeVent using AOL Instant Messenger (AIM), or by E-mail to colonnadeletters@gcsu.edu, with the subject 'Vent.'



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BellamyStudentApartments.com

Local bands blast it at Buffingtons



LISSA SPEER / SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER



LISSA SPEER / SENIOR PHOTOGRAHER



CLAIRE DYKES / STAFF REPORTER

Orange Free State, a band that consists of GCSU students, and O'Brother, a local band from Atlanta, performed at Buffingtons Saturday night. They entertained students, Milledgeville locals and friends from around the state that gathered to watch them play.

BY STEPHANIE SORENSEN
STAFF REPORTER

At Buffingtons Thursday night, crowds rocked with the homegrown sound of Milledgeville. Local band Orange Free State opened for O'Brother starting a night of entertainment and fun. After a quick warm up, the audience raved over the talented performers on the stage at Buffingtons.

"This is our fourth time playing at Buffington's," said Sean, guitarist of Orange Free State. "The crowd reaction is always great here."

The audience sang along to old favorite covers but the atmosphere escalated as the night went on peaking with the bands' original pieces. Each band had a distinct sound inspired by different artists ranging from Led Zeppelin to Shine-down. The versatile sound transfixed the audience in an up-

roar of excitement.

I think the last band was awesome!" said Taylor Ehamjian "I would love to hear more local bands!"

Orange Free State calls themselves a progressive rock band with a diverse range of sound. The band tries to fit in time to practice with a full school schedule even with Corey Thrower, the drummer, in high school. The other members of the group, Sean Thrower- guitar, Alex Smith- guitar, and Ricky Irvine- bass attend GCSU as full time students. The band was formed when three of the four met in a GCSU jazz group and wanted to rock. They came up with the name of the band in history class.

"We were orange first," said Sean Thrower acknowledging a healthy competition with the other bands around campus.

"We've just started to branch out and we might be going to Macon," said Alex Smith, guitar and vocals for Orange Free

State. "Right now we play for the energy in the crowd."

Headlining band O' Brother has been together for two years touring the South at small venues and gaining vital experience and friends along the way. The members of the band, Anton Dang-bass, Michael Marten-drums, Tanner Merritt- vocals and guitar, Johnny Dang- guitar and Aaron Wamack- guitar are from the Atlanta area. The band has had no professional training and follows their music wherever it takes them. Touring in a '93 Ford Van, the band's latest album, The Death of Day, the Great Release will be released the first week of March.

Bands in concert Page 13



TAYLOR EHRAJIAN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Freshman Brittany Modero observes the photographs of Flannery O'Connor's home.

Andalusia photographs on display

BY SOPHIE SINGER
STAFF WRITER

Looking at photographs that are not only appealing to the eye, but have actual meaning behind them, is truly what brings such uniqueness to an exhibit.

Nancy Marshall, a professional and insightful photographer, displayed 29 of her own photographs of Andalusia, specifically Flannery O'Connor's Farm, in GCSU's museum. The photographs were first displayed in the Entry Gallery on Jan. 29 and the exhibit will end on May 10.

The artist gave a talk at her reception, held on Jan. 29 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., sponsored in part by the Heritage Fund of the GCSU Foundation and the Pat Peterson Endowed Fund, explaining the significance and her connection to Andalusia.

"My intention was to go there and photograph once, but I found that my connection to the place has deepened, and now I have traveled there three times a year" Marshall said.

Marshall expresses her 29 photographs through a platinum effect, each having relevance to Andalusia's landscape and interior. According to Shannon Morris, curator of

the GCSU museum, "The process of the platinum effect is one that most artists can't get their hands on because of its expense and involvement."

"I felt like her photographs were very simple," said Freshman Leslie Spamer, "but the platinum effect gave the photographs more depth and feeling."

While taking these photographs, Marshall used an eight by ten wooden view camera on a tripod because of how it "renders detail and a sense of place." The eight by ten sheets of film give her a larger negative she needs for the platinum contact prints.

Her precise techniques and style are proven through her photographs. She works slowly and alone and "wants to ground herself in the subject before taking the photos." During her first trip to Andalusia in April, she took 14 photos. Instead of presenting them to the public right away, she let them sit for a little while. She did this because she wanted time to go back, look at her photos and make them reach to her perfection.

Marshall first got the idea of photographing Andalusia from reading an article in the New York Times called, "In Search

of Flannery O'Connor." There were photographs already established, but she had the intention of going to photograph them herself.

Flannery O'Connor is an important individual to GCSU because she attended Georgia State College for Women, now known as Georgia College and State University. Marshall's connection to O'Connor was a special one, considering how her late mother attended Georgia State College for Women a few years ahead of O'Connor, thinking they might have come across each other during some point of time.

"The process of the Andalusia exhibit took about a year and a half", according to Morris, "because there were so many things involved, such as putting together the catalogue."

Marshall's largest Andalusia exhibit, which engages even more detail and photographs, is displayed at Emory University. This exhibit is possibly going to expand onto other college campuses as well.

For more information, contact Shannon Morris, museum curator at 478-445-4731 or Shannon.morris@gcsu.edu

Unhappily Ever After *Slaughter writes twisted tales*

BY KATELYN HEBERT
STAFF REPORTER

"I was 14 years old when I watched my mama die - her pale skin turned pasty as she clutched her throat, blood seeping through her fingers like she was squeezing a sponge, instead of trying to hold onto her life."

Karin Slaughter read this excerpt from her short story "Necessary Women" Jan. 26 at Mary Vinson Memorial Library.

Slaughter, author of eight internationally sold books, discussed the inspiration behind her crime stories and her most recent book, "Fractured."

"Fractured" tells the story of Special Agent Will Trent and Detective Faith Mitchell's search to find a killer targeting teenage girls in one of Atlanta's wealthiest communities. Slaughter writes stories based in the South, typically taking place in Georgia.

"I love feeling like I'm standing where I'm from and I think that's so important because every writer, no matter what they say, is a regional writer," Slaughter said. "I'm writing about what I know, which is the South, and I'm also writing about what I want to know, which is why people commit the horrible crimes they do."

Junior exercise science major, Amanda Smith listened to "Necessary Women" on the Internet and was intrigued by the plot.

"The story was heartbreaking yet humorous and really caught me off guard in the end," Smith said. "The story got me hooked and left me wanting more."

Getting the reader hooked is the key to any good series and Slaughter's have done just that. They appeal to many ages and to people all over the world. Slaughter is a regional writer born and raised in Clayton County, Ga. Her love for crime began at a young age and only elevated once she began to write her novels.

"I grew up during the time of the Atlanta child murders and that really influenced my childhood. There was a definite before and after and we were completely terrified," Slaughter said.

"It was shocking to know that children could be harmed and that this sort of crime could be committed."

Slaughter uses her past experiences and influences of other authors to publish The Grant County Series and the Atlanta Series. Both have received praise around the world and she has become a number one bestseller in the UK, Holland and Germany.

Since Slaughter writes about her southern background, many Milledgeville residents enjoy the familiarity with the culture and people portrayed in her novels. Cynthia Anderson has read all of Slaughter's novels and was excited to meet her in person.

"I heard about her books from a friend. The books are very distracting, once I read one, I had to read the others," Anderson said. "I really liked her in person; she doesn't seem so dark. I liked her Southernism."

Mary Helen Davis, GCSU alumna and Milledgeville resident, introduced Anderson to the novels.

"I've read all of her books but I found them by accident, I usually don't read books that are quite so violent, but I got addicted," Davis said.

The violence found in Slaughter's novels is intense and further encouraged by her past.

"I took it personally that my life had changed so much [after the Atlanta child murders]. We couldn't go out trick or treating. I couldn't go past certain streets, and that sort of thing, and I think that's where my interest in crime developed," Slaughter said.

Another in attendance at the book signing was Elaine Whitaker the English department head.

"I particularly enjoy hearing a writer talk about her work, she was wonderfully direct, forthcoming and honest," Whitaker said.

crime novelist

Spotlight

BY CHELSEA THOMAS

Top 8 Romantic Dates in Milledgeville

As Valentine's Day arrives, it's important to remember that romance can last all year long.



- 1) **An Afternoon Renting Jet Skis on Lake Sinclair:** In warmer weather this is a perfect date for adventurous people. The possibility of riding off into the sunset isn't actually that far off. Contact one of the following four options for more information: High Grove Harbor Marina at 706-484-2555, Sinclair Marina at 478-452-3620, Jereshai Lakeside at 706-485-3322, or Georgia Watersports at 478-986-9841.
- 2) **Stargazing:** One great thing about Milledgeville's "smaller city" aspect is that it doesn't require a long drive to find an uncongested, quiet, dark road. Head up 441 past Wal-Mart or the opposite direction entirely, and surely the perfect location will find you. Warmer weather is better, but colder weather calls for more clothing layers, hot chocolate in a thermos, and cuddling. Always bring blankets!
- 3) **Dinner and Dessert on the Town:** The cliché night out does not have to be so cliché. Make it your own. You want dessert first- go for it! Here are some suggestions: For a fancy, "dress-up dinner" check out 119 Chops downtown, which provides a speakeasy atmosphere and live jazz bands twice a month, or Sylvia's on North Columbia Street. Although more expensive dining, they are sure to be a special treat. For dessert go to any Milledgeville favorite, such as Scoops downtown.
- 4) **Take a Hike:** Bartram Forest or Lockerly Arboretum have idyllic woodland and nature trails for a short stroll or longer hike. Get outdoors and breathe some fresh air together. Each also offers serene picnic locations for sunny days. The Bartram forest entrance is located on Carl Vinson Road, south of Milledgeville off U.S. Hwy. 441 towards Dublin. To visit Lockerly Arboretum head south on Wayne Street from historic downtown, it will be about one mile on the left.
- 5) **Grab a Couch at Blackbird Coffee:** Whether for an event, like acoustic night, or on a cold, rainy afternoon order your favorite specialty coffee drink and pull up a seat. Just talking can be fun, but for your inner geek, pull out the games for two, like Scrabble, Checkers, or Connect-Four.
- 6) **Become a Chef:** For those with nagging roommates or no kitchen, this may not be as enjoyable, but for the people with kitchens and room to spare this is a less expensive option. First, pick out a recipe both people have never tried and head to the store for the supplies. Second, begin cooking with your favorite music playing in the background. Nothing quite like home cooking adventures and dancing to your favorite music. Third, enjoy the outcome or laugh about it!
- 7) **Get Green at Oconee Greenway:** In warmer weather go tubing down the Oconee River or bike-riding along the trails. This time of year walk along the water buddled up in your favorite coat and take in the scenery, far away from school and responsibilities.
- 8) **"Car" Date:** Who says everyday chores cannot be romantic? One weekend afternoon get your cars together and spend an afternoon "working at the car wash." Jump in with your favorite CD's and just go for a ride. When was the last time you drove for fun? See where the road leads you!

Crime Novelist

Continued from Page 11...

Slaughter visited Milledgeville thanks to Andalusia and its executive director Craig Amason. "We pretty much sponsored this, and made all the arrangements for her to be here," Amason said. "Her novels are like CSI, in print, it's that kind of suspense." Slaughter's books have been climbing the charts since they became published. Writing crime novels is her passion and

being born with a name like Karin Slaughter, what else could be expected? "Think about the novels that have endured; 'The Great Gatsby,' 'To Kill a Mockingbird'; even 'Gone with the Wind' has a murder in it," Slaughter said. "Crime stories are the kinds that really grip people."

Petar Jankovic, guitarist performs at Max Noah

BY RYAN DEL CAMPO
STAFF REPORTER

From the first sweet sound-ing melody his guitar played in the Max Noah Recital Hall, he instantly engaged his audience. He then had them hooked until the last note reverberated through the room.

Petar Jankovic, a professor at Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music, truly puts his soul into music. He displayed his mastery of the classical guitar with a performance of several compositions for GCSU music students, teachers and enthusiasts last Thursday.

The sweet melodic tones he played expressed a broad range of emotions. Each melody had its own story, much like Jankovic.

He began playing guitar at an early age.

"I found my first guitar under the Christmas tree when I was about seven years old," he said. "It was really only a toy."

But this toy began his path to study and master many forms of the classical guitar.

"I heard the guitar somewhere and knew that I wanted to study it," Jankovic said.

Jankovic began his studies at the renowned Music Academy in his home town of Belgrade, Yugoslavia. He earned several awards for his performances, and eventually began to take the first step towards a teaching career when asked to share his musical mastery with other students.

He left Yugoslavia to pursue further education at the Indiana University where he earned an Artist Diploma Degree. He then continued there to teach and has happily stayed at IU while recording and performing.

In his performance at GCSU, Jankovic played a beautiful six-stringed golden Spanish guitar. When asked about how much a similar guitar would cost, he compared it to that of a fine imported car.

Like his guitar, many of the pieces he performed originated from Spanish and Latin culture. These pieces varied from slow sonatas to quick-paced tangos, just as

the intensity of sound in each fluctuated.

Jankovic described the fascinating history of one piece, "Libra Sonatine." He told the audience it was dedicated to the composer's heart surgeon, and that each of the three movements respectfully represented the time before, during and after surgery. The melodies indeed did have the feel of a heart beating, the sharp sting of the surgery and the return to normalcy.

Freshman Natalie Ricker attended Jankovic's recital.

"He is a very talented guitarist," said Ricker. "The style of his music surprised me, but I connected to it because it was unlike anything I had ever heard before."

During Mr. Jankovic's performance, the audience's eyes remained focused on his passionate expressions and his talented hands. Each listener, despite their musical background, understood the depth of his love for music. His dedication should serve as inspiration to students and teachers of music alike.

Packer's detailed stories take students on an adventure

BY ELISE COLCORD
STAFF REPORTER

"Drinking Coffee Elsewhere" may conjure a specific coffee-filled image to mind, but ZZ Packer's book delves into a more enriching sensation than the smell and taste of a pristine cup of joe.

The Yale graduate dubbed herself "ZZ" after a long life of mispronunciations of her real name, Zuwena, and it lends a more lighthearted feel to her already amiable personality.

Every seat in every row of the auditorium quickly filled until there were only a few vacant rows in the back, as students piled in to hear an excerpt from "Drinking Coffee Elsewhere." Packer approached the podium with a warm smile and a worn copy of her book.

Her voice and gestures made the characters come alive and brought the audience into a time of segregation to see how it infiltrated the world of a few know-it-all fourth graders.

Packer then teased the audience with a cliffhanger of "Brownies," enticing listeners to find out more from her book. She was not short of words when describing themes of her stories and the transition of writing short stories to writing novels.

"Short stories use lots of energy in short bursts. But with a novel, you have to be with it everyday. It's really more like a marathon and kind of endurance not a short 100 meter dash," Packer said.



ELISE COLCORD / STAFF REPORTER

In today's world, many people don't think twice about writing as a legitimate profession. For Packer, it took some time to realize that she could and would follow her passion successfully.

"As a child we, my family, would go to the library almost everyday and I would see these books on the shelves that just looked like they were meant to be there on their own," Packer said. "It never occurred to me that someone had written them. To discover that people actually go through a process to write these books was amazing. When I actually did that process with my first book, a bell went off in my head and I realized that I might be able to really do this."

With her realization, she made her passion a success. "Drinking Coffee Elsewhere"

became a national best seller and a Pen/ Faulkner Finalist.

Throughout her short stories, an underlying theme of children learning about the world at their own pace and not through their parents' eyes stands out. Packer addressed the crowd with a thoughtful response.

"You don't become an adult unless you separate yourself from your parents. It begins a period of awareness. I think that's where the world of story begins," Packer said. "You are reacting to your environment or contributing to it somehow. All of that to me is very ripened and fertile ground for stories."

Each story creates an original adventure. Her view of growth and personal revelations puts her characters in real situations in tough or compromising times. Packer's vibrant language, rich in details, lets the reader escape to another time and place. In her stories, she smartly touches on racial boundaries and delves more into thought processes.

Every author creates a story with characters that come alive and guide the creator's pen in the fluid flow of their lifespan. Packer reflects on her characters in different stories.

"At a certain point, when you're writing, the characters begin to take on a life of their own. I think that's why fiction is so enjoyable, because you get the chance to see another life and not just a replica of a life that's already been lived," Packer said.

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Curious about Benjamin Button

Grade: B+

BY CHRIS MOSKALY
REVIEWER

The one person who isn't curious about Benjamin Button is Benjamin Button himself.

Regardless of whether or not it's one of the year's best films, "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button" is certainly the most paradoxical as it presents enough small ironies to fill a gumball machine.

Beyond the obvious backwards aging concept that encompasses the film's plot, director David Fincher takes F. Scott Fitzgerald's short story and reshapes it into a dark three hour epic that may seem a little dragged in its latter act, but still maintains an ideal structure that makes it simply enjoyable for those who have the patience to appreciate it.

In a line of thrilling masterpieces, Fincher has only once tried fiddling with viewers' emotions, and it was at the climax of "Se7en" when Brad Pitt found Gwyneth Paltrow's head inside a box. Whether by vivid brutality in "Fight Club," or solving mysteries in "Zodiac" (a film, which I thought was highly under-appreciated) it's always a matter of craft for him as a director, and unlike many others, he can actually make so much out of his production design, that it's okay if viewers just enjoy the show for what it is.

Aside from the "outsider who values life most" mentality of the central character, there really aren't too many "touching" moments in this film. But it is still plenty enjoyable to see the solid blue eyes of Brad Pitt hiding underneath a wrinkled face that was born just weeks earlier; not to mention the way he humorously connects with a bunch of old-timers who envy him for actually getting younger every single day. "Did I ever tell you I was struck by lightning seven times?"

Covering an entire lifespan stemming from 1918 all the way to the break of the 21st century, Fincher's latest drama follows a young/old man named Benjamin (Brad Pitt) who is born with all the physical and emotional qualities of an 80 year-old. After being abandoned by his fa-



ther, Benjamin gets taken in at a nursing home where he meets a young ballerina named Daisy (Cate Blanchett) who becomes his love interest.

Together, the two of them must help each other find a place in the world as they age from opposite sides of the living spectrum; an unfortunate catalyst that will ultimately bring numerous ups and downs to their relationship.

I didn't even realize it until I entered, but this film actually reunites Brad Pitt and Cate Blanchett, who recently worked together in the foreign drama "Babel." While that film wasn't so much focused on its characters as opposed to its primal theme, I was still able to notice a certain chemistry that helped their segments stand out among the rest of the non-English speaking side plots.

Even if the connection isn't as juiced with as much feeling as it could be, it's more so the nature of the individual characters they play in this movie that keep us following the relationship as it goes on-and-off throughout the decades, especially at the end of World War II when Benjamin returns to New York to see Daisy living her dream as a ballerina.

Sparks fly, not just over the other man who's in her life now, but also the fact that this is the only point in time where the two of them will share the same age and look similar enough to follow what has been in their hearts from the very beginning.

Blanchett could be a possible contender for "Supporting Actress" as she

gives the film what little internal sentiment it requires, but the real golden star of this show belongs to Brad Pitt as he pushes his character through a wheelchair-bound childhood all the way to a handsome newborn's death-bed.

It's one thing to applaud the solid make-up work that keeps Pitt in the driver seat the whole time, but it's how he accentuates the personality of Benjamin that shows his true devotion to the role.

Oddly enough, however, therein lies another one of the film's biggest ironies. He knows he's different, and even if he can't explain it, he still accepts it without a lick of shame... so just why exactly are we supposed to be curious about him if no one else is? Maybe "acceptance" is supposed to be the point, but without that curious connection, it's hard to get fully attached to Benjamin's character and the film doesn't really feel like a journey of personal struggle; it's just a close examination into the life of one particular outsider.

I don't know about you, but if I knew someone who was aging backwards, I'd probably try to promote them as a contender for "8th Wonder of the World." There are very few production teams in Hollywood who can plot their stories on longer scales and keep the momentum running fresh, but luckily for its novelty fanbase, Benjamin Button gets a fairly decent arrangement, especially from screenwriter Eric Roth (Forrest Gump).

I just hope that all the dire readers out there who hold Fitzgerald's work in their hearts don't walk away from this film agitated by the numerous differences. Seeing as how it took me this long to even bring it up, I think it's perfectly safe to say that aside from the backwards aging and the name of the protagonist, reading the book and seeing the film are really two completely separate experiences.

The question is... which one is more curious about Benjamin Button? I read, I saw... I was satisfied, but not enough to believe in 13 Oscar nominations.

Haven't seen all of the films nominated for Best Picture at the Oscars?

Pick up The Colonnade!

Chris Moskaly will be reviewing **Frost/Nixon**, and **Milk** in the next two issues so you will be ready for the award show on Feb. 22!

Fourth year for lecture series at Andalusia

BY ALI DUCKWORTH
STAFF REPORTER

The Flannery O'Connor-Andalusia Foundation is sponsoring the fourth annual February Lecture Series at the home of Flannery O'Connor, located on Highway 441 in Milledgeville.

Andalusia welcomed the start of the series on Sunday afternoon featuring Mr. Scott Daniel, winner of the 2005 Sarah Gordon Award for an essay by a graduate student.

A current high school teacher in Warner Robins, Ga., Daniel is a graduate of GCSU and once served as a volunteer at Andalusia while attending graduate school. He delivered his lecture, titled, "Mythologizing Place: Flannery O'Connor's Contest with Dante Alighieri."

"The first program in the February lecture series brought 15 guests to Andalusia on Feb. 1 to hear Scott Daniel's presentation.

sentation.

The questions that followed indicated that his paper prompted thoughtful reflection on the various ways in which O'Connor's work can be interpreted," Mr. Craig Amason, Executive Director of The Flannery O'Connor - Andalusia Foundation said.

Guest speakers at the Sunday lectures will include Mr. Gilreath on Feb. 8, Dr. Dewey Kramer on Feb. 15, and Ms. Nancy Smith Fichter and Mr. Robert Fichter on Feb. 22.

Mr. Gilreath, President of the Ocmulgee Ornithological Society will discuss the pastime of birding as well as some of the species that consider Andalusia home.

Dr. Dewey Kramer, author of "Open to the Spirit: A History of the Monastery of the Holy Spirit" (1986), will talk about the history and significance of the Trappist monastery located in Conyers, Ga.

There, O'Connor and her mother visited the Holy Spirit monastery, becoming friends with the Abbot and several of the monks.

Ms. Nancy Smith Fichter and Mr. Robert Fichter, directors of the Lillian E. Smith Center for Creative Arts in Clayton, Ga., will discuss the life of Lillian Smith, a contemporary of O'Connor and author of the novel, "Strange Fruit" (1944).

Along with Andalusia, the Smith Center is located on the Southern Literary Trail as are many other literary landmarks in Ga., Ala., and Miss.

The lectures are held in the dining room of the main house each Sunday in February, beginning at 3 p.m., with a reception following each lecture. The February events are free and open to the public. For more information, please visit the Web site at <http://www.andalusia-farm.org>

Bands in Concert

Continued from page 11...



CLAIRE DYKES / STAFF REPORTER

"It would be awesome if we made it big one day, but for right now we are perfectly happy playing together. We have a great time playing and meeting so many new people. As long as the Van lasts, the band will too," said Marten.

Coming from the Atlanta area, O'Brother seems to have a knack for college towns, stirring up the party scene and networking through local college venues.

"Everyone in college is very relaxed. You get to know other bands and learn different styles of music," said Anton Dang

The two bands complemented each other with a well-developed rock sound. The crowd was a bit sluggish at first, but once the music started everyone felt the energy coming from the stage. Each band had a different style that brought the crowd to their feet. The bands had an excellent performance with O'Brother proving their status as an up-and-coming professional rock band while Orange Free State has untapped potential to make it far beyond the streets of Milledgeville.

Students continue to go to Buffingtons Thursday night to hear live and local bands. To check out more music by O'Brother and Orange Free State, go to their Web sites at myspace.com.

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'Cats can't lose, streak now at eight



BOBBY GENTRY / SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

PBC Player of the Week Shaun Keaton celebrates along with his teammates and Bobcat fans who stormed the court following GCSU's victory over Augusta State on Saturday. The senior guard also earned GCSU Athlete of the Week for his performances in the three games this past week.

BY SAM HUNT
STAFF WRITER

The GCSU Bobcat basketball team now owns an eight-game winning streak overall and in the Peach Belt Conference, including six in a row at home, where they are undefeated this season.

On Jan. 31, the No. 24 Bobcats faced the No. 7 Jaguars of Augusta State University.

The teams played an extremely close and high-scoring game. When the first half was almost over,

the Jaguars led the Bobcats 39-38. With just four seconds left in the first half, senior guard Shaun Keaton sank a deep three to give the Bobcats a lead over Augusta State 41-38.

With roaring fans on both sides, GCSU and Augusta State continued their head-on battle in the second half. Neither team in the second half held a lead that exceeded six points. With just 10 seconds left in the game, the Bobcats were leading Augusta State 77-76, when a foul by the Jaguars led to the junior guard Ty Rowland sinking two

free throws to make the final score 79-76.

The highest scorer for the Bobcats was Keaton who had a total of 23 points. Keaton was 6-of-10 on field goals, 3-of-7 on threes, and 8-8 on free throws.

Senior guard Ken Kemp pitched in with 12 points, and Rowland and junior guard Graham Martin both scored ten points each. For the entire game GCSU's shooting average was 36.5 percent

Basketball Page 15

Golf shaping up for spring

BY KYLE COLLINS
SENIOR REPORTER

The last competitive rounds for the GCSU golf team occurred almost four months ago. Class, workouts and self-disciplined practice passed the time. One week after the start to the spring semester, qualifying for the opening event began. Ten guys for five traveling spots. Knocking off the rust became a necessity for those wanting to play in the spring kickoff in Lakeland, Fla.

Several players who did not compete last fall hoped to break into the starting five. A tall order, considering the highest scoring average was a shade over 74 and the worst tournament finish was sixth amongst these players.

Still, the unpredictable winter weather and course conditions can shake things up. Several scenarios are possible when the team plays almost ten rounds.

Over the past few weeks, the GCSU golfers played at the Milledgeville Country Club (MCC), The Golf Club at Cuscowilla and Harbor Club. These span the spectrum from a tricky local layout to challenging championship designs of Lake Oconee.

The scoring averages through seven rounds reflect the differences in course design. When comparing team totals, the MCC yielded a 73.8 team average over two rounds played.

In contrast, two team rounds at Harbor Club ended with a group average of 76.6. Three rounds at the par-70 Cuscowilla layout proved to be the most challenging in relation to par, as the team averaged six-over.



KYLE COLLINS / SENIOR REPORTER

Junior Francisco Bide watches his putt roll toward the cup during qualifying last week. Bide has the low round of the spring thus far, shooting a 66 at Cuscowilla.

Golf Page 16

Two blowouts and an overtime thriller keep Lady 'Cats' streak alive

The Lady Bobcats' basketball team has racked up seven straight wins and climbed to second place in the Peach Belt Conference.

GCSU first dominated a catfight in their game against the Augusta State University Lady Jaguars on Sat. Jan. 31, with the highest point total for the Lady Bobcats this season, an 82-69 victory. The win was their fifth straight.

ASU drew first blood, but junior guard Daniela Nopuente shot a three-pointer to give GCSU its first lead at 9-8. After GCSU gained the lead, they never relinquished it.

Nopuente commented on her three-point shooting against the Lady Jaguars.

"It took a lot of concentrating," Nopuente said. "I kept thinking 'I need to make this one.' Just take every shot I can."

The Lady Bobcats started off the second half strong with a 7-0 run, making it 50-31.

Late in the game, Nopuente nailed another three-pointer to give the Bobcats its largest lead of the game at 23 points.

Senior forward Tiauna Brantley and Nopuente led the team in points with 14 each. Brantley also made every free throw attempt she had.

"We brought a lot of energy to the game," Brantley said. "I've missed the last few free throws in past games so I made sure I made them in this game."

Junior forward Antoinette Reames grabbed nine rebounds for the night along with 12 points.

As a team, the Lady Bobcats shot 43.7 percent from the floor, 39 percent from behind the arc and 64.7 percent from behind the foul line.

Head Coach John Carrick was pleased with his team's performance.

Lady 'Cats' Page 15

THE SIDE LINE



BY PRESTON SELLERS
SPORTS EDITOR

The Super Bowl has never been so super. What an incredible game the Steelers and Cardinals just gave us.

This year's game is the greatest I can remember, and I am not likely to be convinced that it is not the best Super Bowl ever.

While I believe the NFL playoff system is inherently flawed, sometimes an outstanding matchup comes out of it, such as we witnessed this year.

The Cardinals were the underdogs, even from the beginning of the playoffs, who no one gave a chance to win it all. This is a historically wretched franchise, who has experienced a rebirth this season under the coaching of Ken Wizzenhunt and the leadership of grizzled veteran Kurt Warner.

The Steelers, on the other hand, are one of the greatest franchises of all time, in any sport. They seem to always be good, and are particularly tough in the postseason.

So to reflect on the game itself, let's consider the greatness on the field. Two Hall of Fame quarterbacks faced off, throwing to three or possibly four (considering what Santonio Holmes did) Hall of Fame receivers, and at least four Hall of Fame defenders were on the field.

Not too shabby, and the best part was that the great players had a chance to make huge plays, and did just that.

It can be argued that James Harrison's 100-yard interception return or Santonio Holmes' ridiculous, improbable, and frankly insane touchdown catch to win the game are two of the top five greatest plays in Super Bowl history.

Lost in all this is the amazing performance of Larry Fitzgerald, who was quite uncoverable the last month of the season. His two touchdowns were both incredible plays, top highlights any other day, but the Steelers simply stole the show when it counted, at the end of each half.

I can't think of a better ending to the NFL (and all football) for the year, except maybe the Falcons going all the way, and I doubt I will see a game nearly that good for a while.

Props to the Steelers for winning their sixth title, but I have to say the story is the Cardinals, who proved what can be done when a team plays together and believes in each other, regardless of what people say they can or can't do.

THE SHORT STOP



Upcoming Sports

Basketball (M):

Feb. 11 7:30 p.m. Armstrong Atlantic

Basketball (W):

Feb. 11 5:30 p.m. Armstrong Atlantic

Quote of the Week

"It's obviously bad judgment and it's something I'm not proud of at all. I will say that with the mistakes that I've made in my life, I've learned from them. Every one of them. And I've become a better person. That's what I plan to do from here. It's definitely not what I wanted, and it's clearly not what my mom wanted." - Michael Phelps, regarding his recent run-in with S.C. police over a photo of Phelps smoking marijuana.

Stat of the Week

90.9

The Bobcat men's basketball team's three-point shooting percentage in the second half of their 21-point victory over UNC Pembroke.

Lady ‘Cats

Continued from Page 14...

“How many points we score doesn’t matter as long as we score one more point than the other team,” Carrick said. “This win was a big team effort. Keeping our [winning] streak alive is awesome.”

The Lady Bobcats followed this by taking their sixth straight victory, winning convincingly over the University of North Carolina at Pembroke (UNCP) on Monday, Feb. 2 with a score of 76-53. The Lady Bobcats got an early seven point run, but the Lady Braves fought back to a 22-20 deficit at half.

After halftime, the game continued to stay neck-and-neck. GCSU began to use a full court press, which Pembroke didn’t respond well to. Using the full court press, junior guard Shandrea Moore stole the ball immediately following a basket and fed it to sophomore guard Dominique Huffin, who sunk a three to complete a quick five-point run. This play seemed to be the game clincher. The five-point lead would turn into a huge second half run that put away the Lady Braves for good.

Huffin led the Lady Bobcats in points with 20. Brantley and Reames each accumulated five steals.

As a team, the Lady Bobcats shot 49.2 percent from the floor, and 44 percent from behind the arc.

The Lady Bobcats victory came down to one aspect: defense.

“We’re going to bring the defense, because if they can’t score, they can’t win,” Brantley said.

The first and second half performances for the Lady Bobcats were as different as day and night.

“First half was embarrassing,” Carrick said. “We played with no energy and played at the level of our opponents. Second half was much better. We used a [full court] press, which helped us get those easy baskets. [Once] we got our confidence back, we started shooting better [overall]. If you don’t have energy, you’re going to lose.”

The Lady Bobcats then got their seventh straight win, though not easily, by winning a nail biter over North Georgia College and State University (NGCSU) on Feb. 4 with a score of 61-58 in overtime.

The Lady Saints went on a early six-point streak, but senior guard Emily Bixler hit a three-pointer that gave GCSU its first lead at 11-8.

The Lady Bobcats led the game at halftime 37-18, and NGCSU committed 11 fouls in the first half while GCSU only tallied four.

NGCSU began the second half with

a three-point shot, but GCSU kept pulling away and extended their lead to 20. The Lady Saints then made a fierce comeback with a nine-point streak, and began to press, which flustered the Lady Bobcats.

NGCSU continued to decrease the point deficit until the end of regulation saw a 56-56 tie.

GCSU overcame NGCSU in overtime with a score of 61-58, allowing no field goals by the Lady Saints.

Nopuente led the Lady Bobcats with 14 points and three steals.

“We got overconfident,” Nopuente said. “We had to make sure [we won.]

Reames had an impressive defensive game with 10 rebounds and six blocks.

“I made sure we got the win,” Reames said. “Nothing else mattered.”

As a team, GCSU shot 30.8 percent from the floor, and 26.3 percent behind the arc.

Coach Carrick was grateful to have a chance in overtime.

“We didn’t wanna lose it,” Carrick said. “We had to make sure we got it back.”

The Lady Bobcats look to extend their winning streak to eight in another home game, Feb. 11 against Armstrong Atlantic State University.



BOBBY GENTRY / SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER
Sophomore guard Dominique Huffin looks to score on a fast break.



BOBBY GENTRY / SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER
Junior guard Graham Martin drives around an Augusta State defender on Saturday.

Basketball

Continued from Page 14...

on field goals, 35.1 percent on three-point field goals, and 90.9 percent on free throws.

On Feb. 2 in another home game, the Bobcats dominated the University of North Carolina at Pembroke Saints 91-70.

The Bobcats and Saints played a closely-contested and very physical game. At the end of the first half, GCSU led the Saints only by two, 28-26.

Senior guard Ken Kemp and senior guard Shaun Keaton both scored six points each at the end of the first half. Kemp was 1-3 on field goals and 4-4 on free throws. Keaton was 1-4 on field goals, 1-3 on 3-point field goals, and 3-4 on free throws. The Bobcats’ shooting average for the first half was 30.8 percent on field goals, 11.1 percent on 3-point field goals, and 73.3 percent on free throws.

In the second half, UNCP committed two technical fouls, the first against guard Cortez Brown. Then with 11 minutes and 30 seconds remaining, the Saints received another technical when guard Marcus Heath received a flagrant foul and was ejected from the game.

“It was a very physical game,” Head Coach Sellers said. “The referees had to call it pretty tight or else the game might have gotten out of hand.”

As the second half progressed, so did the Bobcats’ lead over the Saints. With 19 seconds left in the game, sophomore forward Reece Wiedeman hit a layup to push the Bobcats to their largest lead at 22. UNCP was able to make one foul shot to make the final score 91-70.

For the second half, the Bobcats’ shooting average was 70 percent on field goals, an astounding 90.9 percent from three-point range and 83.3 percent on free throws.

“It was an ugly game,” said junior guard Graham Martin. “They played hard but in the end we got the separation and came out with the win.”

Keaton scored the most points for the Bobcats with 23 points, including 8-of-10 from the line. Kemp scored 13 points and took advantage of the physical nature of the game, going 11-for-12 on free throws.

“Being a team was our greatest strength tonight,” Keaton said. “Sharing the ball and passing it to the open person really helped us out tonight.”

Martin, junior guard Jake Rios and senior guard Justin Brown gave the Bobcats five double-digit scorers, all finishing with 11 points. Overall, the Bobcats’ shooting average was 47.8 percent on field goals, 55 percent on three-point field goals and 80 percent

on free throws.

On Feb. 4, the Bobcats, now No. 17 in the country, faced the North Georgia College and State University Saints in yet another home game, and defeated the Saints 83-75, pushing their winning streak to eight.

The ‘Cats and the Saints started the first half both playing aggressively. With three minutes and 3 seconds remaining in the first half, the Bobcats gained a ten-point advantage on NGCSU, 33-23. Even though the Saints out-rebounded GCSU 17-15, the Bobcats came off of the court at the end of the first half ahead of the Saints 38-26.

Junior guard Jake Rios led the Bobcats in scoring at half time, with a shooting record of 4-of-6 for field goals, including three for three on three-pointers, scoring a total of 11 points. Sophomore forward Josh Hurst and junior guard Graham Martin both tacked eight points each onto the scoreboard for the ‘Cats. GCSU’s shooting average for the first half was 43.8 percent on field goals, 40 percent on three-point field goals and 100 percent on free throws.

When the second half began, both teams continued to play aggressive on both sides of the court. Even though overall, NGCSU out-rebounded the Bobcats 35-30, the GCSU still managed to hold off the Saints’ comeback attempt. The Bobcats’ shooting average for the second half was 44 percent for field goals, 71.4 percent on three-point field goals and 75 percent on free throws.

Martin was the highest scorer overall for the Bobcats, with a total of 20 points. Sophomore forward Josh Hurst chipped in with 18 of his own. Rios tacked on 16 points, including going 4-of-4 from three. Keaton scored 14, including going 6-of-6 on free throws. The Bobcats’ overall shooting average was 43.9 percent on field goals, 50 percent on 3-point field goals, and 78.6 percent on free throws.

With a record of 18 wins with only two losses, the Bobcats have exceeded expectations to this point in the season. They face Armstrong Atlantic State University at home on Feb. 11, looking to extend their win streak to nine. AASU is responsible for one of the Bobcats’ two losses this season, so this should be added incentive for a GCSU victory.

“We are going to come to practice and keep trying to improve,” said head coach Terry Sellers. “We are just going to take it one game at a time and try to do the best we can.”

Slide Show available online at www.GCSUnade.com

Athlete of the week: Shaun Keaton



Keaton

BY PRESTON SELLERS
SENIOR REPORTER

The GCSU Athletic Department has named Shaun Keaton, senior guard for the Bobcats basketball team, its athlete of the week for the week ending Feb. 1.

This is Keaton’s third such award, and the fifth for the men’s basketball team this season.

Keaton had back-to-back outstanding performances, averaging

19.0 points per game in two Bobcat wins, the leading Bobcat scorer in each.

He has also moved into ninth place all-time on the GCSU scoring list with over 1100 points.

Keaton also had a career-high nine rebounds against Augusta State, showing his development from a young sharpshooter to an all-around great veteran player.

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Hockey club raises funds, looks for support from fellow students as RSO

BY CLAIRE DYKES
STAFF REPORTER

GCSU's new club hockey team is fundraising to enter their first tournament as a Registered Student Organization.

The team has set up a goal with pucks and hockey sticks for students to hit targets outside of the Arts and Sciences this past week. They have also bagged groceries to raise the \$330 for the entrance fee into the Tallahassee, Fla., tournament Feb. 20.

SGA recognized the hockey team as an RSO in early December. However, it will not receive funds from the school until the fall since the budget is determined before the school year starts.

This is the first of many tournaments the team hopes to enter this semester.

"We're thinking about (attending tournaments in) Biloxi, Disney, South Carolina and Alpharetta," said Jeff Brittain, sophomore.

Brittain heads up the fundraising efforts for the team while seniors Matt Moore and Billy Villacorta organize the participation in tournaments.

Ten players from the team plan on attending the tournament. While the team has never entered a tournament as an official club, the team attended tournaments in Tallahassee, Fla., and Dothan Ala. previous to their recognition as an RSO.

"We want to get support so we can have tryouts (for fall) and a fan base going," said Brittain.

One goal for the team is to become part of the National Collegiate Roller Hockey Association. Becoming part of the NCRHA would allow the GCSU team to compete with other regional schools such as the University of Georgia and the Georgia Institute of Technology.

The team will continue their efforts for fundraising throughout the semester for future tournaments along with equipment and specialized jerseys.

Softball ready to build on success of '08 season

BY BETH BENTON
STAFF WRITER

The Lady Bobcats softball team finished strong last season, winning their first Peach Belt Conference tournament championship and attending the NCAA South Atlantic Regional tournament for the third straight year.

Defensively, GCSU allowed an average of 1.9 runs per game with 15 shutouts. The team had an impressive 2008 season, finishing 40-14.

"We had a really good season last year," said Ginger Chaffinch, head coach. "But we lost a lot of close games."

While the team had a strong defense, the majority of last year's losses were the result of not scoring enough runs on offense. This year, the Lady Bobcats have a stronger lineup and greater scoring potential.

The Lady Bobcats lost three seniors from last season, a catcher and two outfielders, but with seven seniors this season, the team still has a lot of experience. They also have six new players who can play several positions, including two freshman pitchers, who will be able to reduce the load for upperclassmen.

"We also have one of the best pitchers and one of the best hitters in the league," said Al Weston, sports information director.

Senior pitcher Mandy Chandler already owns GCSU's career records for strikeouts, wins, complete games, shutouts and innings pitched.

Senior outfielder Sherquita Bostick is a strong hitter and quick runner, often stretching base hits into doubles or triples. Both of these players were named All-Americans in 2008.

Bostick was named the Peach

Belt Conference's Player of the Year and Chandler was named to the Peach Belt All-Conference team.

"It was a lot of fun for us to win the conference tournament, but I think we all wanted a little more out of the Regional tournament than what we finished with," Chandler said. "This year we are a senior-heavy team and we – the seniors especially – are looking to take it to another level."

Chandler and the other seniors hope to lead their team to another Peach Belt title and potentially a national championship.

"This year, nationals are being held in Salem, Va., which we think is sort of an omen for us because that's where they were held the last time we made it to nationals," Chandler said.

"This year, I think that we should be able to win the conference as well as the conference tournament, and make it further at regionals so that we will have a shot at going to nationals and winning it as well," Bostick said.

The Lady Bobcats will play in a tournament in Aiken, S.C. beginning Saturday, Feb. 7, and their first home game will be a region game on Feb. 14 against Wingate University.

"Our goal for the beginning of the season is just to find the right combinations," Chaffinch said. "We have multiple players who can play multiple positions."

It may take a few games to find out what the right combination is, but once they do, the Lady Bobcats will be scoring in no time.

"I think that our team chemistry is very good this year," Bostick said, "and that will be the main thing that will help us succeed at our goals for this season."



KYLE COLLINS / SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER
Sophomore Billy Shida demonstrates perfect form as he watches his iron shot sail down the fairway.

Golf

Continued from Page 14...

Currently, the top five mirrors the fall lineup. Sophomore Joe Young has the low total at two-over-par, with juniors Francisco Bide and Niclas Johansson five and nine shots back.

Neither Bide or Young shot over 74 in any round. Bide's four-under-par 66 at Cuscowilla Feb. 1 was the lowest qualifying round in two years, when he carded the same number at Harbor Club. Bide said the low round came from having no expectations and a good day on the greens.

Despite Bide's scorching round, Johansson had the highlight of spring qualifying, when he aced the 16th hole at Cuscowilla. The ball flew directly into the cup, helping the Swede to a two-under-par 68 that day.

"I thought it was perfect," Johansson said. "I said 'get in the hole' and boom it went in."

Junior Pedro Lima and sophomore Billy Shida occupy the last two spots. Despite some struggles, they never played themselves out of the competition.

The sixth spot is still up for grabs. Golfers just outside of the top five still have a chance to compete this spring. Currently, just one shot separates freshman Taylor Smith and redshirt sophomore Matthew Yonz, in the sixth place battle.

The Bobcats open the spring campaign Feb. 15-17 at Florida Southern's Matlock Collegiate. They hope to improve on last year's third place showing.

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